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knew what my attitude was even before the session started. When they resegregated the schools, they knew my concerns. I haven't heard anybody on this floor justify the resegregation of the schools in Omaha. Justify that and then you'll shut me up if I accept your justification. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Chambers. Senator Thompson, on the committee amendments, followed by Senators Beutler, Foley, Hilgert and Chambers. Senator Thompson.

SENATOR THOMPSON: Thank you, Mr. Speaker, members of the body. I, first of all, want to apologize to the body. I wasn't...didn't have all the information down here and I hope I've been able to get information passed out. I think it's out to all of you now, and I want to go back over information on the bill that we passed last year. And I wasn't up to speed earlier, I guess what a difference a year makes, and so I've given you a copy of the law. And then the pink sheet is what was distributed last year, so this is a year old information and hasn't been updated, but I didn't anticipate that we'd be debating the bill again. But now we are and so I think probably most of the information on the pink sheet, even though it's a year down the road, is still valid. And also you might want to look at the e-mails that we talked about, on the veto override last year. Those are from school district around Nebraska. And I could tell you who the specific ones are. if you need to, of actual courses that aren't being taught, courses that are being taught by people who are not endorsed in those areas, programs that are no longer offered because of the fact that we are in a teacher shortage. It's not in every area and it's not in every district, but it's significant in a lot of places in the state already. And without having the tools to recruit people to the profession, to retain people in the profession and without looking at the serious problems we face with the competitiveness of the salaries, we can listen to the criticisms that have passed school decisions. Those aren't our purview as far as I'm concerned in some cases. Those are decisions that were made locally. I support teachers, I was a teacher. It's not an easy job but I...the teachers I know and the teachers that I have worked with over the years are dedicated people. They care about the kids, they wouldn't be in teaching if they didn't care